

CONTENTS

Preface	ix
Introduction	1
An outline of the main directions	2
0.1. Plan of this book	3
<i>Issues that have been left out</i>	4
0.2. Chiral fields and Sin-Gordon equation	6
<i>Chiral fields on spheres (σ-model)</i>	8
<i>From S^2-fields to Sin-Gordon equation</i>	9
0.3. Generalized Heisenberg magnet and VNS equation	10
<i>Reduction to vector nonlinear Schrödinger equation</i>	12
0.4. Four key constructions	14
0.5. Basic notations	16
I. CONSERVATION LAWS & ALGEBRAIC-GEOMETRIC SOLUTIONS	18
§1. Local conservation laws	20
1.1. Formal Jost functions	20
1.2. Basic constructions	23
1.3. Formal jets	27
1.4. Direct calculations (Riccati equation)	30
<i>Riccati equation</i>	32
1.5. Local laws modulo exact derivatives	34
<i>Pohlmeyer's law for PCF</i>	34
S^{n-1} -fields	36
1.6. Comments	37
§2. Generalized Lax equations	38
2.1. Equations of the GHM and the VNS type	38
<i>Equations of the VNS type</i>	41
2.2. Jost functions as operators	42
2.3. Abstract fractional powers (generating operator)	45
<i>Generating operator</i>	48
2.4. Generalized Lax equations (relations to VNS)	50
<i>First order operator</i>	53
<i>Generating operator for Lax equations</i>	54

2.5. Scalar operators (τ -functions)	54
<i>Applications to τ-functions</i>	56
<i>Local conservation laws</i>	56
<i>Reduction to the matrix operator of first order</i>	57
<i>Higher KdV equations and Sin-Gordon</i>	59
2.6. Comments	60
§3. Algebraic-geometric solutions of basic equations	62
3.1. Baker functions	62
<i>Computations of Baker functions via theta functions</i>	64
3.2. The main construction	67
<i>Jordan form of U, V</i>	69
3.3. Reality conditions	72
<i>Anti-hermiticity</i>	77
3.4. Curves with an involution	79
$O_{2m}(\mathbb{R})$ - fields	82
S^{n-1} -fields	82
3.5. Application: discrete PCF equation	83
3.6. Comments	87
§4. Algebraic-geometric solutions of Sin-Gordon, NS, etc.	89
4.1. Sin-Gordon equation, S^2 -fields	89
Solutions of the Sin-Gordon equation	92
<i>Lifting α to S^2-fields</i>	94
4.2. VNS equation	97
<i>Case $n = 2$ (NS)</i>	99
4.3. Relations with the constructions in §3	103
4.4. Application: the duality equation	108
4.5. Comments	111
II. BÄCKLUND TRANSFORMS AND INVERSE PROBLEM	113
§1. Bäcklund transformations	115
1.1. Transformations of basic equations	115
1.2. Bäcklund transformations of U_n, O_n , and S^{n-1} -fields	120
O_n -fields	122
S_n -fields	123
1.3. Sin-Gordon equation	128
<i>Relation with the Lax formalism</i>	130

1.4. Application: local conservation laws for the Sin-Gordon equation and S^{n-1} -fields	133
S^{n-1} -fields	135
1.5. Darboux transformation; Nonlinear Schrödinger equation	138
<i>KdV equation</i>	140
<i>NS equation</i>	143
1.6. Comments	145
§2. Introduction to the scattering theory	148
2.1. Monodromy matrix	148
2.2. Analytic continuations	155
2.3. Variants	164
<i>Unitarity conditions</i>	167
<i>The case of an arbitrary matrix U_0</i>	168
2.4. Riemann-Hilbert problem	171
2.5. Variational derivatives of entries of T (Poisson brackets)	179
<i>Poisson bracket</i>	184
2.6. Comments	187
3. Applications of the inverse problem method	190
3.1. Inverse problem for the basic equations	190
<i>Scattering data</i>	193
<i>Inverse problem</i>	197
3.2. Asymptotic expansions and trace formulae	200
<i>Trace formulae</i>	204
3.3. Examples of reduction (O_n , S^{n-1} -fields; $n = 2$)	208
S^{n-1} -fields	211
<i>Case $n = 2$</i>	214
3.4. Scattering data for certain solutions of the NS equation	217
<i>Superposition of "semi-solitons"</i>	222
<i>Variations of discrete spectral data ($N = 1$)</i>	224
3.5. Application: DNS equation	226
<i>N-soliton solutions</i>	230
<i>Computation of $\delta\alpha_1$ for one-soliton</i>	233
<i>Trace formulae</i>	235
3.6. Comments	237
References	239
Index	249